

CITY AFFAIRS.

Meetings This Day.

Relief Loan Association, at half-past 7 P. M.
 Tyne Lodge, at 7 P. M.
 White Workingmen, at half-past 7 P. M.
 Howell Benevolent Society at 8 P. M.
 G. L. at half-past 7 P. M.
 St. Andrew's Society, at 7 P. M.

Auction Sales This Day.

J. & W. Knox will sell at their store, at 7 o'clock P. M., remaining articles from Masonic Fair.
 Leitch & Bruns will sell at 11 o'clock, at their office, hot-house sash.
 Miles Drake will sell at 10 o'clock, at his store, clothing, dry goods, &c.
 W. A. Hunt will sell, at 10 o'clock, at his store, boots, shoes, &c.
 R. M. Marshall & Brother will sell at half-past 10 o'clock, at their office, horses, mules, &c.
 J. Fraser Mathewes will sell at half-past 10 o'clock, at his office, a work mule.
 Wm. McKay will sell at 10 o'clock, at his store, furniture, stoves, &c.

THE HOLIDAY TRADE.—As a general rule, the most extensive and liberal buyers of holiday goods do not put off their purchases until the stocks have become low and the crowd so great that they are unable to make satisfactory selections. Indeed, as we happen to know, some of the most desirable customers in that branch of trade are already on the lookout for souvenirs of the coming season. Dealers who propose to engage in it—and which of them does not?—should therefore announce their attractions without delay, if they wish to reap an early harvest. We need hardly add, what they already know, that the advertising columns of THE NEWS, always a reflex of the business of the city, are consulted more than ever by those desiring bargains in any branch of trade.

OWL OUT.—The individual who took the silver owl from the saloon at the Academy of Music, will please return the same and avoid exposure.

THE CHEAPEST YET.—The News Job Office is now printing bill-heads in the best style and on fine paper, at \$20 per thousand. Merchants, think of it!

REAL ESTATE SALE.—Messrs. Leitch & Bruns sold yesterday the following pieces of property: A house and lot at the corner of King and Morris streets for \$4000.
 A house and lot on Coming street, in Ward No. 4, for \$650.

NEGRO KILLED.—The train on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad, coming north, ran over and killed a negro at Sumter, S. C., Sunday afternoon about three o'clock. The negro was lying on the track, and is thought to have been drunk. His body was terribly mangled by the train.

JAMES RAMSAY DEAD.—We learn that James Ramsay, son of the clerk of the court, who was shot on Wednesday last, at Edgely Court-house, in a difficulty with a man by the name of Murrell, died Sunday afternoon, at two o'clock. Murrell is confined in jail. Matters are all quiet in Edgely.

A MYSTERIOUS CASE.—A colored man, named Harriet Ball, who was employed at the mill works on the Ashley River, disappeared on the 20th of November, and his body was subsequently discovered floating in the river by a colored man named Frank. Poul play was suspected, and an inquest will be held.

BILL OF MORTALITY.—The mortality report for the past week shows a total of 15 deaths, 3 white and 12 colored. Of the former 2 were adult females and 1 a male infant. The colored deaths were 3 male and 3 female adults, 5 male and 4 female infants. Three certificates were received from last week, since that report, but are not included in this statement.

PEOPLE'S BANK OF SOUTH CAROLINA.—The following named gentlemen have recently been elected directors to supply vacancies in the board of the People's Bank of South Carolina: John Hancock, W. Y. Leitch, Albert Lenzburg, Jacob Small, C. L. Burkmyer, and J. R. B. Sloan; John B. Laffie, president, vice James S. Gibbs, resigned; James B. Betts, cashier, vice J. G. Loper, resigned.

A GREAT STORY.—In another part of our paper will be found the opening chapters of a charming story, bearing the attractive title of "Buffalo Bill, King of the Border Men." It is one of the most thrillingly exciting and interesting romances which we have ever read; and the lovers of romance will miss a rich treat if they neglect to peruse it. One of its chief attractions is, that its hero is not a myth, but a flesh and blood character, who is even now fighting the savages on the Western Plains.

CHURCHES.—A song in the saloon attached to the Academy of Music is sounded three minutes before the curtain rises, affording the refreshment seekers ample time to regain their seats before the play commences.

Yesterday was wet and cold, and a disagreeable contrast to the sunny day that preceded it. The books for the transfer of State stock will be closed at the treasurer's office from the 15th instant to the 1st of January, in order to prepare the interest account due to the last proximo.

MASONIC ELECTION.—At the annual communication of Orange Lodge, No. 14, A. F. M., held Monday evening, December 13, 1869, the following officers were elected and appointed to serve for the ensuing Masonic year: Bro. Zimmerman Davis, W. M., vice C. Inglesby, declined; Charles Kerrison, Jr., S. W., vice R. B. Brown, declined; John P. DeVaux, Jr., W. William E. Honour, treasurer; Thomas S. Bee, secretary; William Knox, S. D.; E. L. Roche, J. D.; Glen E. Davis, J. M. Wyck, stewards; A. T. Porter, chaplain; J. J. Beasley, clerk.

ETNA STEAM FIRE ENGINE COMPANY.—At the fortieth anniversary meeting of this company, held at their hall on Tuesday evening, 14th instant, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: E. Willis, president; T. O. Boag, vice-president; J. McElis, secretary; Oren Aages, treasurer; C. C. Wigham, engineer; W. L. Lyons, first director; W. Webb, second director; A. Von Dohlen, third director; J. T. Wilson, fourth director; R. W. Seymour, solicitor; A. Fitch, M. D., surgeon; Thos. E. Watson, land-keeper; Joseph Williams, J. C. Rabb, W. C. Feibach, A. Walton, axmen.

CHARLESTON ANTIQUARY SOCIETY.—At the 77th anniversary meeting of the Charleston Antiquary Society, held yesterday, the 14th instant, the following officers were unanimously elected to serve for the ensuing year, viz: C. M. Furman, president; Richard Yeoman, vice-president; Charles P. Frazer, secretary and treasurer, vice James O'Neal, Esq., the late treasurer, who declined a re-election; John C. Hoff, A. L. Tobias, secretary; C. C. Wigham, Jr., secretary; J. P. Frazer, John C. Hoff, P. C. Galliard, J. B. Patrick, Committee on Accounts—Fleetwood Lannan, A. L. Tobias, Wm. E. Howland, Wm. Whaley, and S. Hart, Sr.

PAGE IMPRISONMENT.—A stranger in this city, who was imprisoned by his landlord for non-payment of his board bill, while in duance received a large remittance from the North, and has since transpired that he is quite wealthy, and was only laboring under a temporary embarrassment, caused by the non-receipt of funds. A limit of the law endeavored to effect his release on a writ of habeas corpus, but failed, and that individual is now again at the hands of his landlord, who promptly telegraphed the news of his unpleasant situation to the North.

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL.

Present.—The Mayor, Aldermen Geddings, Potter, Cunningham, Collins, Barrow, Voigt, Greene, Holloway, Hampton, E. P. Wall, L. F. Wall, and Howard.

The meeting was called to order at 7 1/2 o'clock. The petition of H. Redan for a transfer of the license of H. Meis, was referred to the Committee on Licenses.

The petition of property owners along the line of King street for the construction of a plank road to the city lines, was on motion referred to the Committee on Streets.

The petition of J. C. Jacobs to erect a steam engine on Union Street, for the purpose of loading and unloading the Baltimore line of steamers, was on motion referred to the Committee on Steam Engines.

The petition of Jno. W. Hall for a junk shop license, was referred to the Committee on Licenses. The petition of Wm. Loyd to erect a wooden shed, was referred to the Committee on Brick and Wooden Buildings.

The petition of James Adger & Co., to erect a steam engine on East Bay, was referred to the Committee on Steam Engines.

The petition of Mr. R. Yeoman was referred to the Committee on Light and Streets.

The petition of the four dentists on the police force was laid on the table.

The petition of Mr. O. E. Hughes for the repairing of Greenhill street, was referred to the Committee on Streets.

The following petition of Manager Ford, for a reduction of the tax on the Academy of Music, was referred to the Committee on Licenses:

To the Honorable Mayor and Council of the City of Charleston:
 I most respectfully petition your honorable body in relation to licenses of public amusements, and ask that proper distinction be made between the license and the local entertainments. I most respectfully ask that for a proper consideration in the way of a city license—proportionate to other licenses for other businesses—no license may be permitted to conduct and carry on the place known as the Academy of Music, in this city.

I wish to remain here, believing I can make permanent amusements desirable, and I only ask what all the great cities of North Carolina now grant to the managers of high-toned permanent amusements.

Begging, if you honor this with a reference, an audience with your committee.
 I am, your obedient servant,
 JOHN T. FORD,
 Manager Academy of Music,
 Charleston, S. C.

Aldermen Geddings presented the quarterly report of the City Treasurer, which was ordered to be published.

RECEIPTS.	
Cash	\$400.00
Harbormaster	\$63.08
Interest account	1,018.98
Public exhibitions	1,747.67
Retain and tavern licenses	295.58
Taxes for 1867 and 1868	1,059.50
Taxes for 1869	185,437.89
Transient sales	953.00
Total	\$196,173.12
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Almshouses	\$11,791.83
Board of Health	5,699.04
Charity account	486.97
Firemasters	3,141.61
Lighting Company	4,589.48
Interest per cent	609.00
Interest on bonds	3,966.60
Redeemed city bills	4,431.67
Orphanhouse	5,548.71
Plank road	1,061.04
Streets	1,061.04
Shells	469.50
Sundry officers	7,254.97
Miscellaneous account	23,543.95
Total	\$193,963.78

The returns of the Harbormaster of \$3,963.78, and of the City Sheriff of \$1139.40, were received as information.

Aldermen Geddings presented a report on lightning rods, and recommended that the application of the Captain of Police for new rods be granted. Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings, with power to act.

The Committee on Licenses reported favorably on the petition of T. W. Hawkins, Dennis F. Basterly and August Poulety for tavern licenses. Adopted.

The same committee reported favorably on the petition of Seth Spencer for an auctioneer's license. Mrs. Cannon for junk shop license. P. Pickworth for transfer of license. Adopted.

The Committee of Ways and Means reported unfavorably on the petition of the night police for increase of pay.

The same committee, to whom was referred the petition of Mr. Pozanski in reference to property on the Citadel Square, recommended the payment of \$10,000 in cash in thirty days, and the remainder in city stock at par value, the trustees to make over all right, title and interest of the property to the city. Adopted.

The Committee on Brick and Wooden Buildings reported favorably on the petitions of Matiane Bernard and Wilcox, Gibbs & Co. Adopted.

The special committee to whom was referred the petition of Wm. M. Bird & Co., to restore petroleum and other oils on East Bay, reported unfavorably. Adopted.

The petition of Messrs. Holmes & Calder to erect a steam engine was adopted.

The petition of P. Dolan for back pay on the police force was granted.

The Committee on Lighting the Streets reported favorably on several petitions for street lamps, which was adopted.

A petition from Messrs. Kinsman & Howell, to put up a new gas machine, was referred to the Committee on Lighting the Streets.

Mr. D. Foley gave notice that he would withdraw his name, as surety, from the bond of Lieutenant Tat of the police force. Granted.

The names of J. S. Ryan and B. McInnis, as sureties on the bond of the City Sheriff, were accepted.

Aldermen Geddings reported favorably on sundry accounts against the city. Adopted.

Aldermen Geddings offered a resolution that the fiscal year of the city henceforth begin with the 1st day of January and close with 31st of December in each year, and that the City Treasurer be requested to close the open accounts upon the ledger on the 31st instant, and thenceforth conduct the accounts of the city in conformity with the same.

Aldermen Barrow offered a resolution that any person or persons, company or companies taking out licenses for bar-rooms, taverns, restaurants, circuses, theatres, operas, or other places of public entertainment, shall forfeit and pay to the City Council the sum of \$500 and the costs of this hearing.

Ex parte J. F. DuPre, of Abbeville. Petition for final discharge. Perrin & Colman pro pet. Referred to W. J. Clawson, registrar, for final hearing.

Ex parte W. D. Milster, of Spartanburg. Robo & Co. pro pet. Registrar's report on petition to set up lien. W. C. Beatty pro pet. Report of registrar was confirmed, and assignee ordered to apply proceeds of sale as recommended in the report.

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had been scratched off and the name of George W. Clark substituted for that of H. B. Olney, in the Commissioners of the Orphanhouse. The latter received six votes, and considerable dissatisfaction was expressed by Aldermen Voigt, Cunningham and others, at the erasure of his name, as the matter had been decided upon in caucus.

In the Commissioners of Markets, the name of David Barrow was substituted for that of R. S. Bruns, the latter receiving 2 votes; Coogan, 1; Addison, 1, and T. J. Mackey, 1.

The Commissioners of the Almshouse were elected in accordance with the petition filed, the board being the same as last year, with the exception of J. F. Greene and Richard Holloway, who took the place of E. W. M. and T. J. Mackey.

Aldermen Voigt said that in the list of supervisors of the High School, Aldermen Collins' name was substituted for that of T. J. Mackey, but that of Aldermen L. F. Wall was not on the list agreed upon in caucus, and he thought, from the action of Council, that caucus meetings were a farce, and that the inconsistency of Council surprised him.

Aldermen E. P. Wall said that that was not the offence; it was because a colored man was on the board. The gentlemen would sit in Council with colored men; if they decline to sit as supervisors, let them resign.

Aldermen Greene thanked Council for electing him a member of the Board of Supervisors of the High School, but begged leave to resign and substitute the name of Hon. George S. Bryan.

Aldermen Voigt said that he was accused of what was not true, and those who knew him were aware that he had no prejudices in regard to color. He sat with colored men to the right and left in Council, and would sit at the same boards with them elsewhere.

Aldermen Cunningham said that he was displeased because the solemn pledges given in caucus were violated; but Mr. Olney's name had been erased and Mr. Clark's substituted. The one was a Democrat the other a Republican, but that should have caused no change. He was willing to vote for any one, white or colored, whose name was agreed upon at a caucus meeting.

Aldermen E. P. Wall said the tickets were all laid on the desks, and the Aldermen must have seen the name of B. P. Wall, and could have erased it and substituted that of G. S. Bryan, if so disposed, and thus avoided the discussion.

Aldermen Greene said that at the caucus meeting he had expressed his unwillingness to accept the nomination, and he again tendered his resignation. He resented the insinuations of Aldermen Wall as unjust, particularly as regarding himself. He had sat with colored men at the same board, and would do so again.

The resignation being accepted, the election was held, and Judge Bryan received twelve votes and L. F. Wall one.

A communication from the county auditor asking for the appointment of a board of equalization was read and referred to the Mayor for action.

The Mayor appointed Aldermen Geddings, Potter and Cunningham the special committee to consider the report of Aldermen Barrow, on the west end of Broad street.

On motion Council then adjourned.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The disagreeable weather last evening prevented the appearance of the usual proportion of ladies in the audience at the Academy; but those who were present were amply repaid for having ventured out on so raw and damp a night.

"Chickadee," the open throat song, written by Andrew Halliday, well known as a contributor to the London Punch, has a lively and well-defined plot, and abounds in keen dialogue and droll situations. Miss Blanche Chapman, in the leading part, achieved a decided triumph. Whatever her success in burlesque, her strongest point, we think, is in comedy. The perfect naturalness and quiet lady-like manner in which she conducts the dialogue of the play, was refreshing to ears accustomed to the usual exaggerated tone and boisterous demeanor of the stage. Cinderella passed off as gaily and as smoothly as when first performed. Miss Ella sustaining the part of the rollicking Dandini in spirited and graceful style.

For to-night we are to have "Black Eyed Susan," with the happy comedy of "Everybody's Friend," written by Sterling Coyne, of London. It has had the run of a year in London, with Mr. S. Clarke (brother-in-law to Edwin Booth) as Major Wellington de Boots, a swaggering military bully, with the aspect of a lion and the pluck of a mouse. Felix Featherly is "Everybody's Friend," constantly, in his honest desire to serve others, involving himself in trouble, like Goldsmith's "Good-natured Man." The comedy is full of very laughable incidents, and has recently been revived in New York, with much success. Mr. Bishop appears as the doughty Major on this occasion.

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W. L. Utsey, George's Station; W. P. Meier, G. R. Meier, B. A. Early, E. G. Kirren, J. A. Law, Darlington; M. C. Hall, Williamsburg; Isaac Blanton, Mercatus; J. M. McNeill, New York; W. S. Harley, Waterboro; Mrs. G. M. Thompson and child, New York; J. W. Sargol, Savannah and Charleston Railroad; J. W. Hueston, James Island; T. J. Counts and lady, Miss Donnie May, Barnwell; Robert Partle, St. Stephen's; W. S. McKee, New York; John McCall, B. H. Haxley, Marion; M. L. Jones, H. L. Holliman, Handy Holliman, N. R. McMillan, W. S. A. Higgins, Graham's Cross Roads; J. F. Alden, Orangeburg.

MILLS HOUSE.
 T. C. Stephens, Jacksonville, F. F. Chapman, City, O. H. Pettigill, South Carolina, Wm. Marshall, Florida, M. Revell, California, Jas